

What is claimed is:

Claim 1        A device for transcutaneous application of carbon dioxide comprising:

                 A container adapted for removable application to a subject's skin, to form a pocket between the subject's skin and the sheet;

                 An activatable source of carbon dioxide, adapted to be placed inside the pocket;

                 Whereby, when activated, the source of carbon dioxide releases carbon dioxide into the pocket to deliver a dose of carbon dioxide to the subject's skin.

Claim 2        The device set forth in Claim 1 wherein the container comprises a gas impermeable sheet defining a perimeter and further comprises an adhesive placed around the perimeter adapted for removable application to the subject's skin.

Claim 3        A device as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising:

                 A vent in the container.

Claim 4        A device as set forth in Claim 2 further comprising:

                 A vent in the sheet.

Claim 5        A device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the activatable source of carbon dioxide comprises an agent that generates the gas by a chemical reaction.

Claim 6        A device as set forth in Claim 5 further comprising a porous envelope inside the gas and liquid impermeable envelope that contains the agent.

Claim 7        A device as set forth in Claim 1 wherein the activatable source of carbon dioxide comprises a small cylinder containing the gaseous agent attached to the container, in operable communication with the pocket and adapted to release carbon dioxide into the pocket.

Claim 8        A device as set forth in Claim 7 further comprising:

                 A vent in the container.